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PATENT

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Wieland *et al.* Examiner: Langel, Wayne A.  
Serial No.: 09/853,902 Group Art Unit: 1754  
Filed: May 14, 2001  
For: *Process for the autothermal catalytic steam reforming of hydrocarbons*

Customer No.: 23719

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December 28, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Sir:

This communication is submitted in response to a non-final office action dated July 1, 2004 that was mailed in connection with the above-captioned matter. In the communication the Examiner set a three-month time period in which to respond. Accompanying this response is a petition for a three-month extension of time and authorization to charge the deposit account for the requisite fee. Thus, this response is timely.

**Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on the date shown below with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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12/28/04  
(Date)